NEWS – Statewide Law Enforcement For Immediate Release August 26, 2015

For more information: NDDOT Safety Public Information Specialist, (701) 328-4559 or contact local law enforcement (contact information can be provided on request.)

Over 1,000 Citations for Seat Belt, Child Restraint in July

Statewide – Extra traffic safety patrols during the month of July resulted in over 3,000 citizen contacts across North Dakota. Forty-eight law enforcement agencies, including the North Dakota Highway Patrol, added extra shifts in July for *Click It Or Ticket* seat belt enforcement.

A total of 2,814 citations were attributed to the added patrols. Of the total, 970 were citations for failure to use a proper safety restraint and 35 were child restraint citations. Tickets for speeding totaled 1,195. The traffic stops also resulted in six felony violations, 20 drug arrests and eight DUIs.

Increased law enforcement for traffic safety is one element of a collaborative effort to eliminate roadway deaths in North Dakota. Seat belt use is crucial to preventing motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths. On average in North Dakota, over 60 percent of those who die while riding or operating a passenger vehicle or pickup are unbelted. In 2014, 75 people died who were unbelted—46 of them were totally or partially ejected.

Funding for additional traffic safety enforcement is provided by federal grant money distributed through the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT).

Learn more about traffic safety initiatives at ndcodefortheroad.org or join the conversation on the *Code for the Road* Facebook or Twitter page.

###

